

Research Article

Inferences for Generalized Pareto Distribution Based on Progressive First-Failure Censoring Scheme

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In this article, we consider estimation of the parameters of a generalized Pareto distribution and some lifetime indices such as those relating to reliability and hazard rate functions when the failure data are progressive first-failure censored. Both classical and Bayesian techniques are obtained. In the Bayesian framework, the point estimations of unknown parameters under both symmetric and asymmetric loss functions are discussed, after having been estimated using the conjugate gamma and discrete priors for the shape and scale parameters, respectively. In addition, both exact and approximate confidence intervals as well as the exact confidence region for the estimators are constructed. A practical example using a simulated data set is analyzed. Finally, the performance of Bayes estimates is compared with that of maximum likelihood estimates through a Monte Carlo simulation study.

1. Introduction

In life testing and reliability analysis, some units can be lost or withdrawn from the experiment before failure occurs. One of the major reasons for removal of the experimental units is to save the working experimental units for future use, thereby conserving the cost and time associated with testing. This leads us to use the censoring schemes. The type-II censoring can be considered a common type of censored scheme. Many authors have studied the statistical inference for different probability distributions using progressive type-II censoring, including Balakrishnan and Sandhu [1, 2], Cohen [3], Mann [4], Ng [5], Balakrishnan et al. [6], Gibbons and Vance [7], Yuen and Tse [8], Ng et al. [9], Balakrishnan [10], Soliman [11, 12], Madi and Raqab [13], Mahmoud et al. [14], Mahmoud et al. [15], Soliman et al. [16], El-Sagheer [17–19], Mahmoud et al. [20], El-Sagheer and Hasaballah [21], El-Sagheer et al. [22], and Soliman et al. [23]. Recently, Zhang and Gui [24] studied the statistical inference for the lifetime performance index of Pareto distribution based on progressive type-II censored sample.

On the other hand, Viveros and Balakrishnan [25] have described a life test in which the experimenter can decide to divide the items being tested into several groups and then run all the items at the same time until occurrence of the first failure in each group. Such a censoring scheme is called first-failure censoring. For more details about statistical inference using first-failure censoring, it is recommended that the reader refers to Wu and Yu [26], Wu et al. [27], Lee et al. [28], and Wu et al. [29]. However, using this censoring scheme does not enable the experimenter to remove experimental units from the test until the first failure is observed. For this reason, Wu and Kuş [30] introduced a life testing scheme, which combines first-failure censoring with a progressive type-II censoring called a progressive first-failure censoring (Pro-F-F-C) scheme. Many previous studies have discussed inference under a Pro-F-F-C scheme for different lifetime distributions, for example, Weibull by Wu and Kuş [30], Burr Type XII by Soliman et al. [31, 32], Gompertz by Soliman et al. [33], Lomax by Mahmoud et al. [34], Compound Rayleigh by Abushal [35], Generalized Inverted Exponential by Ahmed [36], the Mixture of Weibull and Lomax

by Mahmoud et al. [37], and exponentiated Frechet by Soliman et al. [38]. Recently, Cai and Gui [39] discussed the classical and Bayesian inference for a Pro-F-F-C left-truncated normal distribution.

Generalized Pareto distribution (GPD) is a significant continuous lifetime distribution. It plays a key role in statistical inference studies and reliability problems. It is also well known for being a distribution that has decreasing failure rate property. The pdf and cdf of a random variable X have a GPD given, respectively, as

$$f_X(x; \alpha, \beta) = \alpha\beta^\alpha (x + \beta)^{-(\alpha+1)}, x > 0, \alpha, \beta > 0, \quad (1)$$

$$F_X(x; \alpha, \beta) = 1 - \beta^\alpha (x + \beta)^{-\alpha}, x > 0, \alpha, \beta > 0, \quad (2)$$

where α and β are the shape and scale parameters, respectively. The survival and hazard rate functions of GPD at mission time t are given by the following expressions:

$$s(t) = \beta^\alpha (t + \beta)^{-\alpha}, t > 0, \quad (3)$$

$$h(t) = \alpha (t + \beta)^{-1}, t > 0. \quad (4)$$

For more details about GPD, its properties, and applications, see Kremer [40]. In this article, we obtain the Bayes estimates and MLEs for the unknown quantities of the GPD using a Pro-F-F-C scheme. The approximate confidence intervals (ACIs) for α and β are constructed based on the asymptotic normality of MLEs. In the Bayesian framework, the point estimates of unknown parameters under squared error (SE), linear-exponential (LINEX), and general entropy (GE) showing loss functions are discussed. The process is done using the conjugate gamma prior for the shape parameter and discrete prior for the scale parameter β . The exact confidence interval and exact confidence region for the estimators are then derived. To evaluate and compare the performance of these proposed inference procedures, a simulation study with different parameter values is undertaken. Additionally, a numerical example using simulated data set is studied to show the practicality and usefulness of these proposed methods.

The rest of the paper is arranged as follows. Section 2 deals with the classical method of estimation. Bayes estimators relative to different loss functions are considered in Section 3. In Section 4, the ACIs, exact confidence intervals, and exact confidence regions for the parameters are discussed. In Section 5, the proposed procedures obtained in the previous sections are investigated using simulated data. A simulation study is conducted to compare the proposed procedures in Section 6. Finally, a conclusion is provided in Section 7.

2. Maximum Likelihood Estimation

Let $x_i = x_{i:m:n:k}^R$, $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$, be a Pro-F-F-C order statistics from the GPD with the progressive censoring scheme $R = (R_1, R_2, \dots, R_m)$. According to Wu and Kuş [30], the joint probability density function can be written as

$$f_{1,2,\dots,m}(x_{1:m:n:k}^R, \dots, x_{m:m:n:k}^R) \propto k^m \prod_{j=1}^m f(x_{j:m:n:k}^R) \quad (5)$$

$$(1 - F(x_{j:m:n:k}^R))^{k(R_j+1)-1}.$$

From (1), (2), and (5), the likelihood function $L(\underline{x}; \alpha, \beta)$ is given by

$$L(\underline{x}; \alpha, \beta) \propto k^m \alpha^m \prod_{i=1}^m \beta^{\alpha k(R_i+1)} (x_i + \beta)^{-(\alpha k(R_i+1)+1)}. \quad (6)$$

Thus, the log-likelihood function $\ell(\underline{x}; \alpha, \beta)$ is

$$\ell(\underline{x}; \alpha, \beta) \propto m \log k + m \log \alpha + \sum_{i=1}^m \alpha k(R_i + 1) \log \beta \quad (7)$$

$$- \sum_{i=1}^m (\alpha k(R_i + 1) + 1) \log(x_i + \beta).$$

By equating each result of the first-order derivatives of log-likelihood function with respect to α and β , to zero, we obtain

$$\frac{\partial \ell(\underline{x}; \alpha, \beta)}{\partial \alpha} = \frac{m}{\alpha} + \sum_{i=1}^m k(R_i + 1) \log \beta \quad (8)$$

$$- \sum_{i=1}^m k(R_i + 1) \log(x_i + \beta) = 0,$$

$$\frac{\partial \ell(\underline{x}; \alpha, \beta)}{\partial \beta} = \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{\alpha k(R_i + 1)}{\beta} - \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{(\alpha k(R_i + 1) + 1)}{(x_i + \beta)} = 0. \quad (9)$$

Hence,

$$\hat{\alpha} = m \left(\sum_{i=1}^m k(R_i + 1) \log(x_i + \hat{\beta}) - \sum_{i=1}^m k(R_i + 1) \log \hat{\beta} \right)^{-1}, \quad (10)$$

and $\hat{\beta}$ the solution of

$$\sum_{i=1}^m \frac{\hat{\alpha} k(R_i + 1)}{\hat{\beta}} - \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{(\hat{\alpha} k(R_i + 1) + 1)}{(x_i + \hat{\beta})} = 0. \quad (11)$$

Since there is no closed form of the solution to the above equations, the Newton-Raphson method (NRM) is widely used to obtain the desired MLEs in such situations. Once MLEs of α and β are obtained, the MLEs of $s(t)$ and $h(t)$ for given t can be obtained by the invariant property of the MLEs as

$$\hat{s}(t) = \hat{\beta}^{\hat{\alpha}} (t + \hat{\beta})^{-\hat{\alpha}}, t > 0, \quad (12)$$

$$\hat{h}(t) = \hat{\alpha} (t + \hat{\beta})^{-1}, t > 0. \quad (13)$$

3. Bayesian Estimation

Bayes estimation is quite different from the MLE method because it takes into consideration both the information from observed sample data and the prior information. Bayes'

theorem is completely dependent on the parameter estimation through calculation of the posterior distribution. As calculating the posterior distribution is conditional on the data, this requires explicit specification of the prior distribution model parameters. Furthermore, in order to gain the best estimate of the unknown parameter, it is necessary to determine the appropriate loss functions.

The next step is to take into account different loss functions. First, we consider the square error (SE) loss function which is widely used in the literature. Because of the symmetry nature of this function, it gives equal weight to overestimation as well as underestimation. Under SE, the Bayesian estimate (BE) of any function of parameters, say $\psi(\Theta) = u(\alpha, \beta, s, h)$, is the unconditional posterior mean which is given as

$$\hat{\psi}_{BS}(\Theta) = E(\psi(\Theta)) = \int_{\Theta} \psi(\Theta) \pi^*(\Theta) d\Theta. \quad (14)$$

However, in many situations, the parameter may be overestimated or show serious consequences of underestimation, or vice versa. In such cases, an asymmetric loss function, which associates greater importance to overestimation or underestimation, can be taken into consideration for parameters estimation. A beneficial asymmetric loss function is the LINEX loss as follows:

$$L_{LINEX}(\hat{\psi}(\Theta), \psi(\Theta)) = e^{a(\hat{\psi}(\Theta) - \psi(\Theta))} - a(\hat{\psi}(\Theta) - \psi(\Theta)) - 1, \quad (15)$$

where a is a shape parameter whose sign refers to the direction and its magnitude represents the degree of symmetry. Moreover, for a figure close to zero, the LINEX loss more or less becomes a SE loss. Thus, the BE of $\psi(\Theta)$ under this loss function is given by

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{\psi}_{BL}(\Theta) &= -\frac{1}{a} \log \left[E(e^{-a\psi(\Theta)}) \right] \\ &= -\frac{1}{a} \log \int_{\Theta} e^{-a\psi(\Theta)} \pi^*(\Theta) d\Theta. \end{aligned} \quad (16)$$

Next, we consider the GE loss function as follows:

$$L_{GE}(\hat{\psi}(\Theta), \psi(\Theta)) = \left(\frac{\hat{\psi}(\Theta)}{\psi(\Theta)} \right)^q - q \log \left(\frac{\hat{\psi}(\Theta)}{\psi(\Theta)} \right) - 1, \quad (17)$$

where q is a shape parameter which represents departure from symmetry. Subsequently, based on the GE loss functions, the BE of $\psi(\Theta)$ is obtained as

$$\hat{\psi}_{BG}(\Theta) = [E(\psi(\Theta)^{-q})]^{-1/q} = \left[\int_{\Theta} (\psi(\Theta)^{-q}) \pi^*(\Theta) d\Theta \right]^{-1/q}. \quad (18)$$

It is remarked that for $q = -1$, the BE of $\psi(\Theta)$ concurs with the BE under SE loss function.

3.1. Posterior Analysis. In this subsection, we consider that the parameter β a discrete prior and α has a conjugate gamma prior. Suppose that $\beta = \beta_j$, $j = 1, 2, \dots, N$, then

$$\pi(\beta) = \Pr(\beta = \beta_j) = \eta_j, \quad (19)$$

where $0 \leq \eta_j \leq 1$ and $\sum_{j=1}^N \eta_j = 1$. Further, α has

$$\pi(\alpha | \beta = \beta_j) = \frac{a_j^{b_j}}{\Gamma(b_j)} \alpha^{b_j-1} \exp(-a_j \alpha), \quad \alpha, a_j, b_j > 0. \quad (20)$$

Then, the posterior distribution of α takes the form as follows:

$$\pi^*(\alpha | \beta = \beta_j; T_j) = \frac{(T_j + a_j)^{(b_j+m)}}{\Gamma(b_j + m)} \alpha^{b_j+m-1} \exp(-\alpha(T_j + a_j)), \quad (21)$$

where

$$T_j = \sum_{i=1}^m k(R_i + 1) [\log(x_i + \beta_j) - \log \beta_j]. \quad (22)$$

The joint posterior of α and β_j using (6), (19), and (20) is

$$\pi^*(\alpha, \beta = \beta_j, T_j) = \frac{a_j^{b_j} v_j \eta_j}{k_2 \Gamma(b_j)} \alpha^{b_j+m-1} \exp(-\alpha(T_j + a_j)), \quad (23)$$

where

$$k_2 = \sum_{j=1}^N \frac{a_j^{b_j} v_j \eta_j \Gamma(b_j + m)}{\Gamma(b_j) (T_j + a_j)^{(b_j+m)},} \quad (24)$$

$$v_j = \prod_{i=1}^m (x_i + \beta_j)^{-1}.$$

By using the Bayes theorem for discrete variables, the marginal posterior probability of β is

$$P_j = \Pr(\beta = \beta_j | T_j) = \frac{a_j^{b_j} v_j \eta_j \Gamma(b_j + m)}{k_2 \Gamma(b_j) (T_j + a_j)^{(b_j+m)},} \quad (25)$$

where k_2 and v_j are given in (24); the marginal posterior probability of α is

$$\pi^*(\alpha | T_j) = \sum_{j=1}^m \pi^*(\alpha | \beta = \beta_j, T_j). \quad (26)$$

3.2. BE under SE Loss. In this subsection, we obtain the BE of α , β , $s(t)$, and $h(t)$ under SE loss function. By using (14), (21), and (25), the BEs $\tilde{\alpha}_{BS}$, $\tilde{\beta}_{BS}$, $\tilde{s}_{BS}(t)$, and $\tilde{h}_{BS}(t)$ are given by

$$\tilde{\alpha}_{BS} = \int_0^\infty \sum_{j=1}^N \alpha P_j \pi^*(\alpha | \beta = \beta_j, T_j) d\alpha = \sum_{j=1}^N P_j \frac{(b_j + m)}{(T_j + a_j)}, \tilde{\beta}_{BS} = E_\beta(\beta | \underline{x}) = \sum_{j=1}^N \beta_j P_j, \tilde{s}_{BS}(t) = \sum_{j=1}^N P_j \left[1 + \frac{\log(1 + (t/\beta_j))}{(T_j + a_j)} \right]^{(b_j+m)}, \quad (27)$$

$$\tilde{h}_{BS}(t) = \sum_{j=1}^N \frac{P_j (b_j + m)}{(t + \beta_j)(T_j + a_j)}. \quad (28)$$

3.3. *BE under LINEX Loss.* Based on (16), (21), and (25), the BEs $\tilde{\beta}_{BL}$, $\tilde{\alpha}_{BL}$, $\tilde{s}_{BL}(t)$, and $\tilde{h}_{BL}(t)$ are

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{\beta}_{BL} &= -\frac{1}{a} \log \left[\sum_{j=1}^N P_j \exp(-a\beta_j) \right], \\ \tilde{\alpha}_{BL} &= -\frac{1}{a} \log \left[\sum_{j=1}^N P_j \left(1 + \frac{a}{(T_j + a_j)} \right)^{-(b_j+m)} \right], \\ \tilde{s}_{BL}(t) &= -\frac{1}{a} \log \left[\sum_{j=1}^N \sum_{\epsilon=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-a)^\epsilon}{\epsilon!} P_j \left(1 + \frac{\epsilon \log(1 + t/\beta_j)}{(T_j + a_j)} \right)^{-(b_j+m)} \right], \end{aligned} \quad (29)$$

$$\tilde{h}_{BL}(t) = -\frac{1}{a} \log \left[\sum_{j=1}^N P_j \left(1 + \frac{a}{(t + \beta_j)(T_j + a_j)} \right)^{-(b_j+m)} \right]. \quad (30)$$

3.4. *BE under GE Loss.* From (18), (21), and (25), the BEs $\tilde{\beta}_{BG}$, $\tilde{\alpha}_{BG}$, $\tilde{s}_{BG}(t)$, and $\tilde{h}_{BG}(t)$ are, respectively,

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{\beta}_{BG} &= \left[\sum_{j=1}^N \beta_j^{-q} P_j \right]^{(-1/q)}, \\ \tilde{\alpha}_{BG} &= \left[\sum_{j=1}^N P_j \frac{(T_j + a_j)^q \Gamma(b_j + m - q)}{\Gamma(b_j + m)} \right]^{(-1/q)}, \\ \tilde{s}_{BG}(t) &= \left[\sum_{j=1}^N P_j \left(1 - \frac{q \log(1 + (t/\beta_j))}{(T_j + a_j)} \right)^{-(b_j+m)} \right]^{(-1/q)}, \\ \tilde{h}_{BG}(t) &= \left[\sum_{j=1}^N P_j (t + \beta_j)^q \times \frac{(T_j + a_j)^q \Gamma(b_j + m - q)}{\Gamma(b_j + m)} \right]^{(-1/q)}. \end{aligned} \quad (31)$$

$$\quad (32)$$

To perform the calculations in these subsections, the values of a_j and b_j must be found in (20). We use the prior expectation of $s(t)$ conditional on $\beta = \beta_j$. Thus, from (3) and (20), we get

$$E[s(t) | \beta_j] = \left(1 + \frac{\log(1 + (t/\beta_j))}{a_j} \right)^{b_j}. \quad (33)$$

4. Interval Estimation

This section deals with ACIs, exact CIs, and exact confidence regions for the parameters α and β of GPD based on Pro-F-F-C.

4.1. *Asymptotic Confidence Intervals.* The asymptotic normality of the MLEs can be used to construct ACIs for parameters α and β by using Fisher information matrix (FIM). The FIM can be written as $I = (I_{ij})$ where

$$I_{ij} = E \left[\frac{-\partial^2 \ell(\Phi)}{\partial \phi_i \partial \phi_j} \right], \quad i, j = 1, 2, \quad (34)$$

where $\Phi = (\phi_1, \phi_2) = (\alpha, \beta)$. The asymptotic variance-covariance matrix of the parameters α and β can be obtained by inverting the observed FIM I_{ij} as follows:

$$I^{-1}(\hat{\alpha}, \hat{\beta}) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial^2 \ell}{\partial \alpha^2} & \frac{\partial^2 \ell}{\partial \alpha \partial \beta} \\ \frac{\partial^2 \ell}{\partial \beta \partial \alpha} & \frac{\partial^2 \ell}{\partial \beta^2} \end{bmatrix}_{(\hat{\alpha}, \hat{\beta})}^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} \text{var}(\hat{\alpha}) & \text{cov}(\hat{\alpha}, \hat{\beta}) \\ \text{cov}(\hat{\beta}, \hat{\alpha}) & \text{var}(\hat{\beta}) \end{bmatrix}, \quad (35)$$

with

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial^2 \ell}{\partial \alpha^2} &= -\frac{m}{\alpha^2}, \\ \frac{\partial^2 \ell}{\partial \alpha \partial \beta} &= \frac{\partial^2 \ell}{\partial \beta \partial \alpha} = \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{k(R_i + 1)}{\beta} - \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{k(R_i + 1)}{(x_i + \beta)}, \\ \frac{\partial^2 \ell}{\partial \beta^2} &= \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{\alpha k(R_i + 1) + 1}{(x_i + \beta)^2} - \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{\alpha k(R_i + 1)}{\beta^2}. \end{aligned} \quad (36)$$

$$\quad (37)$$

Thus,

$$(\hat{\alpha}, \hat{\beta}) \sim N((\alpha, \beta), I_0^{-1}(\hat{\alpha}, \hat{\beta})). \quad (38)$$

The $(1 - \delta)100\%$ ACIs for α and β become

$$\begin{aligned} & (\hat{\alpha} - Z_{\delta/2} \sqrt{\text{var}(\hat{\alpha})}, \hat{\alpha} + Z_{\delta/2} \sqrt{\text{var}(\hat{\alpha})}), \\ & \cdot (\hat{\beta} - Z_{\delta/2} \sqrt{\text{var}(\hat{\beta})}, \hat{\beta} + Z_{\delta/2} \sqrt{\text{var}(\hat{\beta})}), \end{aligned} \quad (39)$$

where z_δ is $100(1-\delta)\text{th}$ upper percentile of standard normal variate $N(0, 1)$.

4.2. Exact Confidence Intervals. Let $x_{1:m:n:k}^R < x_{2:m:n:k}^R < \dots < x_{m:m:n:k}^R$ denote a Pro-F-F-C sample from GPD with parameters α and β , and let

$$\begin{cases} W_1 = nU_{1:m:n:k}^R \\ W_2 = (n - R_1 - 1)(U_{2:m:n:k}^R - U_{1:m:n:k}^R) \\ W_3 = (n - R_1 - R_2 - 2)(U_{3:m:n:k}^R - U_{2:m:n:k}^R) \\ \vdots \\ W_m = (n - R_1 - \dots - R_{m-1} - m + 1)(U_{m:m:n:k}^R - U_{m-1:m:n:k}^R). \end{cases} \quad (41)$$

According to Thomas and Wilson [41], the generalized spacings W_1, W_2, \dots, W_m are *iid* as standard ED; hence,

$$\zeta_j = 2 \sum_{i=1}^j W_i, \quad (42)$$

has $X^2(2j)$, and

$$\begin{aligned} \xi_j &= \frac{\psi_j / (2(m-j))}{\zeta_j / 2j} = \frac{j}{(m-j)} \cdot \frac{2 \sum_{i=j+1}^m W_i}{2 \sum_{i=1}^j W_i} \\ &= \frac{j}{(m-j)} \cdot \frac{(R_1 + R_2 + \dots + R_j + j - n) + \sum_{i=j+1}^m (R_i + 1) \log(1 + (x_{i:m:n:k}^R / \beta)) / \log(1 + (x_{j:m:n:k}^R / \beta))}{(n - R_1 - R_2 - \dots - R_{j-1} - j + 1) + \sum_{i=1}^{j-1} (R_i + 1) \log(1 + (x_{i:m:n:k}^R / \beta)) / \log(1 + (x_{j:m:n:k}^R / \beta))}, \quad j = 1, 2, \dots, m-1, \end{aligned} \quad (44)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \eta &= (\psi_j + \zeta_j) = 2 \sum_{i=1}^m W_i = 2 \sum_{i=1}^m (R_i + 1) U_{i:m:n:k}^R \\ &= 2k\alpha \sum_{i=1}^m (R_i + 1) \log\left(1 + \frac{x_{i:m:n:k}^R}{\beta}\right). \end{aligned} \quad (45)$$

It can be easily shown that $\xi_j \sim F(2(m-j), 2j)$ where $j = 1, 2, \dots, m-1$, $m > 1$, and $\eta \sim X^2(2m)$. Also, ξ_j and η are independent. To construct an exact confidence interval for β and exact joint confidence region for β and α , we need to analyze the following two lemmas.

Lemma 1. For any positive real numbers $b > a > 0$, $q(\gamma) = \ln(1 + b^\gamma) / \ln(1 + a^\gamma)$ is a strictly increasing function of γ , where $\gamma > 0$.

$$U_{i:m:n:k}^R = k\alpha \log\left(1 + \frac{x_{i:m:n:k}^R}{\beta}\right), \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, m. \quad (40)$$

It is remarked that $U_{1:m:n:k}^R < U_{2:m:n:k}^R < \dots < U_{m:m:n:k}^R$ is a progressively censored sample of exponential distribution (ED) with mean 1. Let us assume the following:

$$\psi_j = 2 \sum_{i=j+1}^m W_i, \quad (43)$$

has $X^2(2(m-j))$. To construct the confidence intervals for α and β , we consider pivotal quantities:

Lemma 2. For a given set of observations $0 < x_{1:m:n:k}^R < x_{2:m:n:k}^R < \dots < x_{m:m:n:k}^R < \infty$, the function ξ_j is a strictly increasing function of β when $\beta > 0$. Furthermore,

- (I) For $x_{m-1:m:n:k}^R \leq 1$, there is a unique solution for the given equation $\xi_j = t$, where $t > 0$.
- (II) Let $x_{0:m:n:k}^R = 0$. For $x_{1:m:n:k}^R \leq 1 < x_{l+1:m:n:k}^R$, there is a unique solution for the given equation $\xi_j = t$ where

$$0 < t < \frac{j}{(m-j)} \frac{\sum_{i=j+1}^m (R_i + 1) \log(x_{i:m:n:k}^R) - (n - R_1 - R_2 - \dots - R_j - j) \log(x_{j:m:n:k}^R)}{(n - R_1 - R_2 - \dots - R_{j-1} - j + 1) \log(x_{j:m:n:k}^R) + \sum_{i=l+1}^{j-1} (R_i + 1) \log(x_{i:m:n:k}^R)}, \quad (46)$$

for $l = 0, 1, \dots, j-1$ and $j = 1, 2, \dots, m-1$. Using the same arguments and notations in Wu et al. [42], Lemma 1 and Lemma 2 can be proved.

4.3. Exact Confidence Interval for β . Suppose that $x_{i:m:n,k}^R$, $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$, denote a Pro-F-F-C sample from GPD (α, β) , with censoring scheme (R_1, R_2, \dots, R_m) . For any $0 < \delta < 1$, a $100(1 - \delta)\%$ confidence interval for β is as follows. We know that $\xi_j \sim F_{(2(m-j), 2j)}$ by Lemma 1 and Lemma 2 ξ_j strictly increases in β when $\beta > 0$, where

- (1) For $x_{m-1:m:n:k}^R \leq 1$, there is a unique solution for the given equation $\xi_j = t$, where $t > 0$.

- (2) Let $x_{0:m:n:k}^R = 0$. For $x_{l:m:n:k}^R \leq 1 < x_{l+1:m:n:k}^R$, there is a unique solution for the equation $\xi_j = t$.

Hence, for $0 < \delta < 1$, from (44), we obtain

$$F_{1-\frac{\delta}{2}}(2(m-j), 2j) < \xi_j < F_{\frac{\delta}{2}}(2(m-j), 2j). \quad (47)$$

Thus, a $100(1 - \delta)\%$ confidence interval for β is

$$\left(\Phi(X^R, F_{1-\delta/2(2(m-j), 2j)}) < \beta < \Phi(X^R, F_{\delta/2(2(m-j), 2j)}) \right), \quad (48)$$

where $X^R = (X_{1:m:n:k}^R, X_{2:m:n:k}^R, \dots, X_{m:m:n:k}^R)$ and $\Phi(X^R, t)$ is the solution for β for the equation:

$$\frac{(R_1 + R_2 + \dots + R_j + j - n) + \sum_{i=j+1}^m (R_i + 1) \log(1 + x_{i:m:n:k}^R / \beta) / \log(1 + x_{j:m:n:k}^R / \beta)}{(n - R_1 - R_2 - \dots - R_{j-1} - j + 1) + \sum_{i=1}^{j-1} (R_i + 1) \log(1 + x_{i:m:n:k}^R / \beta) / \log(1 + x_{j:m:n:k}^R / \beta)} = \frac{t(m-j)}{j}. \quad (49)$$

4.4. Exact Confidence Region for β and α . By the same way, from (45), it is clear that

$$\eta = 2k\alpha \sum_{i=1}^m (R_i + 1) \log\left(1 + \frac{x_{i:m:n,k}^R}{\beta}\right), \quad (50)$$

where $\eta \sim X^2(2m)$. For $0 < \delta < 1$, we have

$$P\left(F_{(1+\sqrt{1-\delta}/2)(2(m-j), 2j)} < \xi_j < F_{1-\sqrt{1-\delta}/2(2(m-j), 2j)}\right) = \sqrt{1-\delta}, \quad (51)$$

$$P\left(\chi_{1+\sqrt{1-\delta}/2(2m)}^2 < \eta < \chi_{1-\sqrt{1-\delta}/2(2m)}^2\right) = \sqrt{1-\delta}. \quad (52)$$

Then, we obtain

$$P\left(F_{1+\sqrt{1-\delta}/2(2(m-j), 2j)} < \xi_j < F_{1-\sqrt{1-\delta}/2(2(m-j), 2j)}\right), \quad (53)$$

$$\chi_{1+\sqrt{1-\delta}/2(2m)}^2 < \eta < \chi_{1-\sqrt{1-\delta}/2(2m)}^2 = 1 - \delta.$$

This is equivalent to

$$P\left(\Phi(X^R, F_{1+\sqrt{1-\delta}/2(2(m-j), 2j)}) < \beta < \Phi(X^R, F_{1-\sqrt{1-\delta}/2(2(m-j), 2j)}), \frac{\chi_{1+\sqrt{1-\delta}/2(2m)}^2}{2k \sum_{i=1}^m (R_i + 1) \log(1 + x_{i:m:n,k}^R / \beta)}\right) < \alpha < \frac{\chi_{1-\sqrt{1-\delta}/2(2m)}^2}{2k \sum_{i=1}^m (R_i + 1) \log(1 + x_{i:m:n,k}^R / \beta)} = 1 - \delta. \quad (54)$$

5. Numerical Computations

Consider a Pro-F-F-C sample generated from GPD showing $\alpha = 0.3$ and $\beta = 1.5$. The data consist of 120 observations, grouped into $n = 30$ sets, with 4 items within each group ($k = 4$). The Pro-F-F-C sample of size 10 out of 30 groups with the corresponding censoring scheme R is given in Table 1. The MLEs of α and β using NRM are computed, and then both $s(t)$ and $h(t)$ are calculated at $t = 0.451$.

To compute the BEs, we first estimate two values of $s(t)$ using a nonparametric procedure $s(t_i = x_{i:m:n,k}^R) = m - i + 0.625/m + 0.25$, $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$. Using the available data, we

obtained $s(t_1 = 0.1694) = 0.7439$ and $s(t_2 = 4.8110) = 0.1585$. These two priors are substituted into (33), where a_j and b_j are obtained numerically for each given β_j , and η_j , $j = 1, 2, \dots, 10$, using the NRM. Table 2 displays the values of a_j , b_j , and P_j for each given β_j and η_j . The results of MLE and BE for α , β , $s(t)$, and $h(t)$ are presented in Table 3. By using (45), the 95% ACIs of α and β are $(0, 0.7068)$ and $(0, 4.4543)$. For $j = 2$, we need the percentiles $F_{0.025}(18, 2) = 0.2193$ and $F_{0.975}(18, 2) = 39.4424$ to construct the 95% CI for β . According to (44), the 95% exact confidence interval of β is calculated as $(0.2193, 7.9943)$. For the given $F_{0.0127}(18, 2) = 0.1780$, $F_{0.9873}(18, 2) = 78.1835$, $\chi_{(0.0127)(20)}^2 =$

TABLE 1: Simulated Pro-F-F-C.

i	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
R_i	10	0	1	1	5	1	1	1	0	0
x_i^R	0.0781	0.1582	0.1694	0.2040	0.3066	0.4909	0.8912	1.0705	4.811	14.123

TABLE 2: The hyperparameter values.

j	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
η_j	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
β_j	1.0	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.5	1.6	1.7	1.8	1.9
a_j	0.6995	0.5966	0.5184	0.4571	0.4087	0.3684	0.3349	0.3066	0.2824	0.2615
b_j	1.4647	1.3743	1.3054	1.2457	1.1976	1.1574	1.1237	1.0938	1.0664	1.0434
P_j	0.1059	0.1058	0.1085	0.1052	0.1041	0.1023	0.0997	0.0961	0.0921	0.0857

TABLE 3: The MLEs and BEs of $\alpha, \beta, s(t)$, and $h(t)$ where $s(0.450) = 0.9243$ and $h(0.450) = 0.1538$.

	$(\cdot)_{ML}$	$(\cdot)_{BS}$	$(\cdot)_{BL}$			$(\cdot)_{BG}$		
			a	q		a	q	
			-1	1	2	-1	1	2
α	0.2975	0.3159	0.3213	0.3107	0.3058	0.3159	0.2832	0.2669
β	1.5521	1.4679	1.5074	1.4279	1.3892	1.4679	1.4108	1.3820
$s(t)$	0.9271	0.9187	0.9189	0.9184	0.9181	0.9187	0.9180	0.9177
$h(t)$	0.1486	0.1653	0.1665	0.1641	0.1629	0.1653	0.1504	0.1428

TABLE 4: The interval lengths for β and 95% confidence area for α and β .

j	Length	Area
1	7.3419	198.238
2	6.1107	74.2141
3	5.7796	61.2357
4	4.3371	66.9821
5	4.7508	64.8714
6	4.2892	59.4761
7	4.2547	55.2478
8	4.0687	62.4790
9	4.3541	67.2178
10	5.1017	55.4785
11	5.1899	61.2587
12	4.6457	56.4512
13	5.2475	42.8979
14	4.5626	39.4872
15	6.9847	41.2789

8.5737, and $\chi^2_{(0.9873)(20)} = 36.7141$, the 95% joint confidence region for β and α is

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} 0.2193 < \beta < 709943 \\ \frac{8.5737}{8 \sum_{i=1}^m (R_i + 1) \log(1 + x_{i:m:n:k}^R / \beta)} < \alpha \\ < \frac{36.7141}{8 \sum_{i=1}^m (R_i + 1) \log(1 + x_{i:m:n:k}^R / \beta)} \end{array} \right. \quad (55)$$

After the following integration,

$$\int_{0.2193}^{7.9943} \frac{34.5235}{2k \sum_{i=1}^m (R_i + 1) \log(1 + (x_{i:m:n:k}^R / \beta))} d\beta. \quad (56)$$

We obtain the confidence area at $j = 2$, by 74.2141. Similarly, the confidence areas for some values of j are presented in Table 4. Figure 1 shows the 95% confidence region for β and α .

6. Simulation Study

To compare the proposed BEs with the MLEs, a simulation study is performed using various combinations of n , m , and k and different censored schemes of R (different R_i values). A

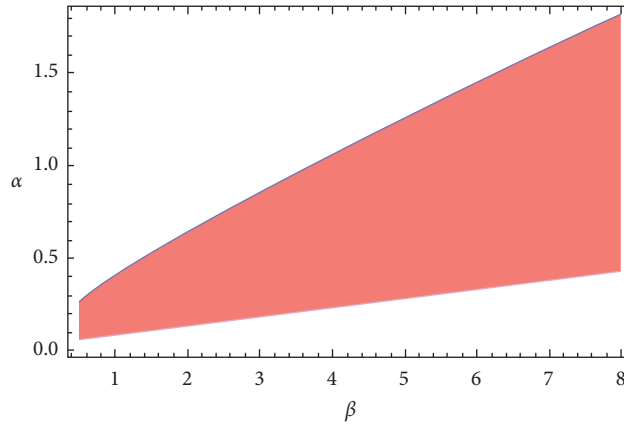


FIGURE 1: Joint confidence region for β and α .

TABLE 5: MSE of MLEs and BEs with true values.

k	n	m	C.S		ML	BS	BL		BG			
							a	q	-1	1	-1	1
1	30	20	I	$\tilde{\alpha}$	0.1576	0.0920	0.0921	0.0920	0.0920	0.0919		
				$\tilde{\beta}$	0.7884	0.5711	0.5744	0.5669	0.5711	0.5655		
				$\tilde{s}(t)$	0.0256	0.0223	0.0229	0.0223	0.0223	0.0216		
				$\tilde{h}(t)$	0.0056	0.0042	0.0042	0.0041	0.0042	0.0040		
			II	$\tilde{\alpha}$	0.1699	0.0922	0.0922	0.0921	0.0922	0.0919		
				$\tilde{\beta}$	0.8268	0.5735	0.5770	0.5680	0.5735	0.5584		
				$\tilde{s}(t)$	0.0258	0.0236	0.0236	0.0231	0.0236	0.0221		
				$\tilde{h}(t)$	0.0058	0.0044	0.0044	0.0042	0.0044	0.0041		
			III	$\tilde{\alpha}$	0.1801	0.0956	0.0957	0.0939	0.0956	0.0938		
				$\tilde{\beta}$	0.8314	0.5788	0.5789	0.5695	0.5788	0.5595		
				$\tilde{s}(t)$	0.0259	0.0237	0.0239	0.0235	0.0237	0.0227		
				$\tilde{h}(t)$	0.0061	0.0046	0.0048	0.0045	0.0046	0.0043		
5	30	20	I	$\tilde{\alpha}$	0.1588	0.0951	0.0952	0.0948	0.0951	0.0944		
				$\tilde{\beta}$	0.6453	0.5717	0.5748	0.5673	0.5717	0.5663		
				$\tilde{s}(t)$	0.0160	0.0151	0.0149	0.0147	0.0151	0.0146		
				$\tilde{h}(t)$	0.0049	0.0041	0.0042	0.0040	0.0041	0.0039		
			II	$\tilde{\alpha}$	0.1597	0.0967	0.0965	0.0963	0.0967	0.0953		
				$\tilde{\beta}$	0.6680	0.5724	0.5751	0.5682	0.5724	0.5674		
				$\tilde{s}(t)$	0.0168	0.0152	0.0153	0.0149	0.0152	0.0148		
				$\tilde{h}(t)$	0.0052	0.0046	0.0049	0.0045	0.0046	0.0043		
			III	$\tilde{\alpha}$	0.1602	0.0969	0.0976	0.0968	0.0969	0.0957		
				$\tilde{\beta}$	0.6692	0.5755	0.5783	0.5684	0.5755	0.5683		
				$\tilde{s}(t)$	0.0175	0.0157	0.0158	0.0155	0.0157	0.0152		
				$\tilde{h}(t)$	0.0057	0.0047	0.0051	0.0048	0.0047	0.0045		
1	30	25	I	$\tilde{\alpha}$	0.1501	0.0886	0.0889	0.0885	0.0886	0.0881		
				$\tilde{\beta}$	0.7861	0.5679	0.5680	0.5593	0.5679	0.5275		
				$\tilde{s}(t)$	0.0254	0.0218	0.0222	0.0217	0.0218	0.0215		
				$\tilde{h}(t)$	0.0053	0.0040	0.0041	0.0039	0.0040	0.0036		
			II	$\tilde{\alpha}$	0.1524	0.0897	0.0898	0.0889	0.0897	0.0886		
				$\tilde{\beta}$	0.7952	0.5683	0.5685	0.5596	0.5683	0.5297		
				$\tilde{s}(t)$	0.0259	0.0231	0.0239	0.0229	0.0231	0.0227		
				$\tilde{h}(t)$	0.0054	0.0041	0.0042	0.0040	0.0041	0.0038		
			III	$\tilde{\alpha}$	0.1537	0.0898	0.0899	0.0892	0.0898	0.0889		
				$\tilde{\beta}$	0.7959	0.5692	0.5695	0.5608	0.5692	0.5343		
				$\tilde{s}(t)$	0.0266	0.0246	0.0248	0.0245	0.0246	0.0239		
				$\tilde{h}(t)$	0.0055	0.0045	0.0048	0.0044	0.0045	0.0041		

TABLE 5: Continued.

k	n	m	C.S		ML	BS	BL		BG	
							a	q		
									-1	1
5	30	25	I	$\tilde{\alpha}$	0.1504	0.0894	0.0898	0.0893	0.0894	0.0883
				$\tilde{\beta}$	0.6422	0.5682	0.5687	0.5595	0.5682	0.5361
				$\tilde{s}(t)$	0.0152	0.0143	0.0144	0.0142	0.0143	0.0141
				$\tilde{h}(t)$	0.0041	0.0038	0.0039	0.0037	0.0038	0.0034
			II	$\tilde{\alpha}$	0.1517	0.0926	0.0928	0.0925	0.0926	0.0923
				$\tilde{\beta}$	0.6521	0.5691	0.5695	0.5598	0.5691	0.5369
				$\tilde{s}(t)$	0.0161	0.0146	0.0145	0.0143	0.0146	0.0142
				$\tilde{h}(t)$	0.0047	0.0041	0.0042	0.0039	0.0041	0.0037
			III	$\tilde{\alpha}$	0.1537	0.0954	0.0959	0.0951	0.0954	0.0936
				$\tilde{\beta}$	0.6547	0.5695	0.5707	0.5617	0.5695	0.5487
				$\tilde{s}(t)$	0.0166	0.0149	0.0152	0.0151	0.0149	0.0143
				$\tilde{h}(t)$	0.0052	0.0045	0.0047	0.0042	0.0045	0.0039

TABLE 6: MSE of MLEs and BEs with true values.

k	n	m	C.S		ML	BS	BL		BG	
							a	q		
									-2	2
1	50	30	I	$\tilde{\alpha}$	0.0914	0.0794	0.0834	0.0756	0.0838	0.0674
				$\tilde{\beta}$	0.6538	0.4130	0.4871	0.3425	0.4389	0.3352
				$\tilde{s}(t)$	0.0242	0.0222	0.0222	0.0222	0.0222	0.0222
				$\tilde{h}(t)$	0.0054	0.0038	0.0037	0.0038	0.0037	0.0036
			II	$\tilde{\alpha}$	0.0942	0.0798	0.0879	0.0788	0.0883	0.0686
				$\tilde{\beta}$	0.6541	0.4140	0.4878	0.3450	0.4397	0.3379
				$\tilde{s}(t)$	0.0255	0.0231	0.0231	0.0231	0.0231	0.0231
				$\tilde{h}(t)$	0.0058	0.0039	0.0040	0.0038	0.0041	0.0037
			III	$\tilde{\alpha}$	0.0945	0.0806	0.0888	0.0796	0.0891	0.0708
				$\tilde{\beta}$	0.6558	0.4304	0.5052	0.3575	0.4566	0.3503
				$\tilde{s}(t)$	0.0279	0.0245	0.0245	0.0245	0.0245	0.0245
				$\tilde{h}(t)$	0.0059	0.0041	0.0042	0.0040	0.0043	0.0039
5	50	30	I	$\tilde{\alpha}$	0.0919	0.0812	0.0843	0.0771	0.0847	0.0698
				$\tilde{\beta}$	0.6483	0.4175	0.4879	0.3633	0.4639	0.3560
				$\tilde{s}(t)$	0.0194	0.0182	0.0182	0.0182	0.0182	0.0182
				$\tilde{h}(t)$	0.0053	0.0034	0.0035	0.0034	0.0035	0.0034
			II	$\tilde{\alpha}$	0.0923	0.0826	0.0861	0.0797	0.0887	0.0727
				$\tilde{\beta}$	0.6499	0.4263	0.4917	0.3721	0.4927	0.3648
				$\tilde{s}(t)$	0.0196	0.0184	0.0184	0.0184	0.0184	0.0184
				$\tilde{h}(t)$	0.0054	0.0037	0.0038	0.0037	0.0038	0.0035
			III	$\tilde{\alpha}$	0.0941	0.0843	0.0877	0.0806	0.0891	0.0756
				$\tilde{\beta}$	0.6512	0.4344	0.5042	0.3852	0.4988	0.3778
				$\tilde{s}(t)$	0.0198	0.0187	0.0187	0.0188	0.0187	0.0188
				$\tilde{h}(t)$	0.0055	0.0038	0.0040	0.0039	0.0040	0.0037

Pro-F-F-C sample from GPD with the parameters $(\alpha, \beta) = (0.5, 2), (0.3, 1)$ is generated. The true values of $s(t)$ and $h(t)$ at time $t = 0.4$ and 0.5 are evaluated to be $(s(t) = 0.9129, h(t) = 0.2083)$ and $(s(t) = 0.8855, h(t) = 0.2)$. The performance of the resulting estimators of $\alpha, \beta, s(t)$, and $h(t)$ has been considered in terms of the mean squared error (MSE), which are computed, for $l = 1, 2, 3, 4, M = 1000, \phi_1 = \alpha, \phi_2 = \beta, \phi_3 = s(t)$, and $\phi_4 = h(t)$ as $MSE = 1/M \sum_{j=1}^M (\hat{\phi}_l^{(j)} - \phi_l)^2$. These results were obtained using Mathematica ver. 13. Considering two different group sizes $k = 1, 5$ and the following censoring schemes,

Scheme I: $R_1 = n - m$ and $R_i = 0$ for $i \neq 1$

Scheme II: $R_{m+1/2} = n - m$ and $R_i = 0$ for $i \neq m + 1/2$ if m odd, and $R_{m/2} = n - m$ and $R_i = 0$ for $i \neq m/2$ if m even

Scheme III: $R_m = n - m$ and $R_i = 0$ for $i \neq m$

The results of MSE of estimates are reported in Tables 5 and 6.

7. Conclusion

The main aim of this article is to develop different methods to estimate the unknown quantities of the GPD based on a Pro-F-F-C scheme, which was introduced by Wu and Kuş [30]. We applied the classical and the Bayesian inferential procedures for the unknown parameters and reliability measures. The ACIs have been derived based on the asymptotic normality of MLEs. Under the Bayesian approach, we obtained the BEs based on the SE, LINEX, and GE loss functions. Furthermore, we assumed the conjugate gamma prior for the shape parameter and discrete prior for the scale parameter. The exact confidence interval and exact confidence region for the estimators have been constructed based on pivotal quantities. A numerical

example using a simulated data set has been studied to show the practicality of these proposed procedures. The performance of the different estimation methods is realized via a simulation study which is revealed in the following:

- (1) The BEs based on SE, LINEX, and GE loss functions perform better than the MLEs, in terms of MSEs
- (2) The BEs based on LINEX and GE loss functions when $a = 1$ and 2 and $q = 1$ and 2 perform better than BEs based on SE, in terms of MSEs
- (3) The BEs based on the SE loss function perform better than BEs based on LINEX and GE loss functions when $a = -1$ and -2 and $q = -1$ and -2 , in terms of MSEs
- (4) From Tables 5 and 6, for a fixed scheme, the MSE values of all estimates, a model's parameters, and the reliability measures decrease as m/n increases which is consistent with the statistical theory that the larger the sample size, the more accurate the estimate
- (5) It can be seen from Tables 5 and 6 that the three CS methods vary in terms of preference and sometimes CS I is the best while at other times the CS II or III is the best in the sense of having smaller MSEs
- (6) The MSEs for α and β estimates based on the Pro-F-F-C scheme with $k = 5$ increase in those for P-type-II-C with $k = 1$ while the MSEs for $s(t)$ and $h(t)$ estimates based on the Pro-F-F-C scheme with $k = 5$ decrease in those for P-type-II-C with $k = 1$

Data Availability

The data used are theoretically generated from the equations in the manuscript.

Conflicts of Interest

The authors declare that they have no conflicts of interest.

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